

## APPLY THE SKILLS

### An Hymn to the Evening • To His Excellency, General Washington

1. **Compare and Contrast:** In “An Hymn to the Evening,” what mood or feeling does the poet connect with each time of day?

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2. **Relate:** If you were going to write a poem of praise, how would you personify the spirit of the United States today?

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3. **Literary Analysis:** Use this chart to analyze two examples of **personification** in “An Hymn to the Evening.”

Object/Idea	Human Qualities	→	Poet’s Meaning

4. **Literary Analysis:** Reread lines 9-12 of “To His Excellency, General Washington.” What details does Wheatley use to describe the way Columbia looks?

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5. **Reading Strategy:** Clarify lines 11-14 of “To His Excellency, General Washington” by defining unnumber’d and graces and reordering the sentence parts.

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